

Please amend claim 4 as follows:

4. (Amended Four Times) A method for producing a graphite powder containing an amount of boron according to claim 1, the method comprising the steps of:
pulverizing a carbon material at least one of before and after carbonization; and
heat-treating the carbon material at a temperature not less than 1500°C thereby causing graphitization to occur, wherein a boron compound is added to the carbon material prior to graphitization.

Please amend claim 5 as follows:

5. (Amended Four Times) A method for producing a graphite powder containing an amount of boron according to claim 1, the method comprising the steps of:
pulverizing a carbon material at least one of before and after carbonization;
heat-treating the carbon material at a temperature not less than 1500°C thereby causing graphitization to occur, wherein a boron compound is added to the carbon material prior to graphitization;
causing scraping of the surface of the graphite powder to occur by heating the carbon material; and
heating the carbon material in an inert gas at a temperature not less than 800°C.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

6. (Twice Amended) The method for producing a graphite powder according to claim 5 wherein the step of causing scraping of the surface of the graphite powder to occur by heating the carbon material includes oxidizing heat treatment.

Please amend claim 7 as follows:

7. (Twice Amended) The method for producing a graphite powder according to claim 4 wherein the carbon material is obtained by at least one of a carbonization of mesophase globules and the bulk mesophase.

Please add new Claim 10 as follows:

10. (New) The method for producing a graphite powder according to claim 4 wherein the carbon material is pulverized at a speed of not less than 5000 rpm.